

P23954.A01



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Teruo OUCHI

Group Art Unit: unknown

Appln. No.: 10/681,155

Examiner: unknown

Filed: October 9, 2003

For: OUTER SHEATHED ENDOSCOPE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 03-193023, which published on August 22, 1991, together U.S. Patent family member U.S. 5,257,617 to TAKAHASHI, which issued on November 2, 1993;

Japanese Utility Model Publication No. U 07-33301, which published on June 20, 1995, together with an english language translation.

U.S. Patent No. 5,868,663 to KATSURADA et al., which issued on February 9, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,865,726 to KATSURADA et al., which issued on February 2, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,788,628 to MATSUNO et al., which issued on August 4, 1998;

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U.S. Patent No. 5,782,751 to MATSUNO, which issued on July 21, 1998;
U.S. Patent No. 5,746,695 to YASUI et al., which issued on May 5, 1998;
U.S. Patent No. 5,733,244 to YASUI et al., which issued on March 31, 1998;
U.S. Patent No. 5,725,477 to YASUI et al., which issued on March 10, 1998;
U.S. Patent No. 5,685,823 to ITO et al., which issued on November 11, 1997;
U.S. Patent No. 5,359,991 to TAKAHASHI et al., which issued on November 1, 1994;
U.S. Patent No. 5,329,935 to TAKAHASHI, which issued on July 19, 1994;
U.S. Patent No. 5,193,263 to TAKAHASHI, which issued on March 16, 1993;
U.S. Patent No. 5,125,143 to TAKAHASHI, which issued on June 30, 1992; and
U.S. Patent No. 5,050,585 to TAKAHASHI, which issued on September 24, 1991.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents.

Copies of the above-noted documents have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(I), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith, except for U.S. 5,257,617 to TAKAHASHI, which is a patent family member of a Japanese patent publication that has been cited herein. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Teruo OUCHI

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January 9, 2004
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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P23954Serial No.
10/681,155

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Teruo OUCHIFiling Date
October 9, 2003Group
Unknown**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5 2 5 7 6 1 7	11/02/93	TAKAHASHI			
	5 8 6 8 6 6 3	02/09/99	KATSURADA et al.			
	5 8 6 5 7 2 6	02/02/99	KATSURADA et al.			
	5 7 8 8 6 2 8	08/04/98	MATSUNO et al.			
	5 7 8 2 7 5 1	07/21/98	MATSUNO			
	5 7 4 6 6 9 5	05/05/98	YASUI et al.			
	5 7 3 3 2 4 4	03/31/98	YASUI et al.			
	5 7 2 5 4 7 7	03/10/98	YASUI et al.			
	5 6 8 5 8 2 3	11/11/97	ITO et al.			
	5 3 5 9 9 9 1	11/01/94	TAKAHASHI et al.			
	5 3 2 9 9 3 5	07/19/94	TAKAHASHI			
	5 1 9 3 2 6 3	03/16/93	TAKAHASHI			
	5 1 2 5 1 4 3	06/30/92	TAKAHASHI			
	5 0 5 0 5 8 5	09/24/91	TAKAHASHI			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
3 - 1 9 3 0 2 3	08/22/91	JAPAN			
7 - 3 3 3 0 1	06/20/95	JAPAN			X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.